



REGIONAL FUGITIVE TASK FORCES

CATCH OF THE WEEK

Week of February 6th, 2006

Taking the Worst of the Worst Off the Streets

Southeast Regional Fugitive Task Force	
<p>On February 9, 2006, Curtis Michael Keith and Rhodenia Sevey were arrested by the Southeast Regional Fugitive Task Force (SERFTF) and officers from the Morgan County, GA Sheriff's Office. Keith was wanted in Virginia on 156 outstanding warrants, of which 104 were counts of child rape on the daughter of his girlfriend, Rhodenia Sevey. Sevey was charged with two counts of felony child abuse and neglect. The two absconded from Virginia with the minor daughter in September of 2005 and the case was referred to the USMS in the Western District of Virginia (W/VA). A great deal of media attention was garnered, producing leads in numerous states. Keith was scheduled to be featured on the television show <i>America's Most Wanted</i> two days after his arrest. On February 8, 2006, the USMS W/VA was contacted by a research analyst for a police department in Greeley, Colorado. This officer relayed that she had friends in Madison, Georgia who had information on possible fugitives. The officer and the informant had seen the photos of Keith and Sevey on the USMS web site and identified them as being residents of an RV park in Madison. The USMS W/VA forwarded a lead to the USMS Middle District Georgia. On February 9, 2006, SERFTF and members of the Morgan County Sheriff's Office verified that the fugitives were residents of the RV park and established surveillance in the area. At approximately 7:00 pm, Keith, Sevey, and the minor daughter were seen arriving at the RV park. Keith and Sevey were arrested exiting their vehicle. A subsequent search of the RV recovered a sawed-off shotgun.</p>	 <p style="text-align: center;">Curtis Keith</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Wanted for Child Rape (104 Counts)</p>
Capital Area Regional Fugitive Task Force	
<p>On January 30, 2006 detectives from the Metropolitan Police Department secured a warrant out of D.C. Superior Court charging John Anthony III with first degree sexual abuse. On that same date, the case was turned over to the Capital Area Regional Fugitive Task Force (CARFTF) for apprehension. Task Force officers pursued Anthony relentlessly for several days, and on February 9, 2006 located him at a residence in SE Washington, D.C. Members of the CARFTF responded immediately and captured Anthony without incident.</p>	 <p style="text-align: center;">John Anthony III</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Wanted for First Degree Sexual Abuse</p>

Pacific Southwest Regional Fugitive Task Force

Manuel Baldomero Mencos was arrested on February 8, 2006 in Fontana, California by members of the Pacific Southwest Regional Fugitive Task Force (PSWRFTF), detectives from the Los Angeles Police Department (LAPD), and inspectors assigned to the USMS Technical Operations Group (TOG). Mencos was wanted by the LAPD in connection with a series of attempted kidnappings and stalking incidents, and for the kidnapping, rape, torture, and sodomy of the same victim. The charges against Mencos allege that in July 2005 he kidnapped a female victim, stole her vehicle, beat her, and threatened to kill her and her children if she went to the police. The victim did report the incident to the police and Mencos was quickly arrested. On December 29, 2005, Mencos was released from custody, and within a week of his release, he stole the same female victim's vehicle from her residence. On January 1, 2006, Mencos followed the female victim to her church and waited for her to depart. Upon her departure from the church, Mencos confronted the victim and became angry at her because she had put him in jail. He then began strangling her, bit her fingers and grabbed her by the hair in an attempt to get her into his vehicle. Two citizens came to her aide and Mencos fled from the area, avoiding capture. On January 6, 2006, Mencos again found the victim while she was driving in her vehicle in North Hollywood, CA. He began following her in his vehicle and then began ramming her vehicle until it spun out of control and came to a stop. Mencos approached her in the vehicle in another attempt to abduct her, but a number of citizens came to her aide and Mencos again fled the area, avoiding capture. On January 10, 2006 Mencos again located the victim, this time at a convenience store in North Hollywood. He kidnapped her by assaulting her and pushing her into her vehicle, forcing her to drive to a local motel in North Hollywood. Once at the hotel he held her captive in the room for two days while he repeatedly raped, sodomized, and tortured her by biting her multiple times in the upper torso and breast area. On January 12, 2006, the victim was able to escape and reported the incident to local authorities. On January 13, 2006 the LAPD Valley Bureau Sexual Assault Unit obtained a warrant for Mencos' arrest. On January 29, 2006 the LAPD contacted the PSWRFTF and requested assistance in locating and apprehending Mencos. PSWRFTF investigators, with critical assistance from TOG, were able to identify possible locations for the fugitive in Temecula and Fontana, California. On February 8, 2006 PSWRFTF investigators and TOG inspectors, along with LAPD detectives, initiated surveillance at a local "strip mall" area in Fontana, California. The surveillance team observed Mencos at one of the businesses in the mall and took him into custody without incident. Mencos was transported to the LAPD Jail facility where he was booked and processed on the charges of kidnapping, rape, sodomy, torture, and vehicle theft.



**Manuel Baldomero
Mencos**

**Wanted for
Kidnapping, Rape,
Sodomy, Torture, and
Vehicle Theft**

Great Lakes Regional Fugitive Task Force

On February 17, 2006, members of the Great Lakes Regional Fugitive Task Force (GLRFTF) and the Chicago Police Department apprehended Edward L. Bailey, wanted by the Chicago Heights, IL Police Department for murder, and by three other police departments for other offenses. In September 2005, Bailey fatally shot a female in Chicago Heights, Illinois. Bailey fled the scene, becoming a fugitive. On September 18, 2005, members of the South Suburban Major Crimes Task Force contacted the GLRFTF and asked for assistance in locating and apprehending Bailey. Members of the GLRFTF and the USMS Technical Operations Group (TOG) conducted an extensive investigation, and on February 17, 2006, while conducting surveillance on a target residence observed two individuals, one matching the description of Bailey, enter a vehicle and drive off. GLRFTF and officers from the Chicago Police Department conducted a vehicle stop, finding Bailey inside the vehicle and placing him under arrest. The subject was transported and turned over to members of the Chicago Heights Police Department.

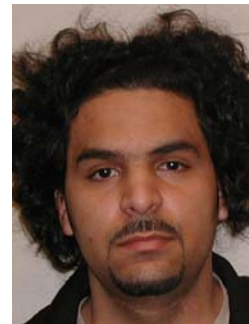


Edward Bailey

Wanted for Murder

New York/New Jersey Regional Fugitive Task Force

Jeffrey Alejandro Pena-Bencosme was wanted by police in the Dominican Republic for the homicide of a police officer. On October 25, 2004, Pena-Bencosme was approached by an off-duty police officer and reprimanded for urinating in public. Pena-Bencosme became argumentative and made several derogatory comments before shooting the officer with a pistol, mortally wounding him. Pena-Bencosme attempted to flee the scene but was stopped by another off-duty officer who opened fire, striking the subject in the neck. Pena-Bencosme was arrested and placed under house arrest. Pena-Bencosme was under house arrest for a short period of time before fleeing to New York November 13, 2004. Police in the Dominican Republic requested the assistance of the USMS and in November 2005 the case was referred to the NY/NJ Regional Fugitive Task Force (NY/NJ RFTF) for investigation. On December 7, 2005, a provisional arrest warrant was issued by the Eastern District of New York (E/NY) for the arrest and extradition of Pena-Bencosme back to the Dominican Republic. In February 2006, members of the NY/NJ Regional Fugitive Task Force (NY/NJ RFTF) and members of the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) developed information indicating that the subject was staying with family at a residence in Brooklyn, NY. Surveillance was initiated at the target location and on February 8, 2006, Pena-Bencosme was observed leaving the residence. Members of the NY/NJ RFTF and agents from the FBI arrested the subject in front of the target location without incident. Pena-Bencosme was remanded in E/NY pending extradition back to the Dominican Republic where he faces capital murder charges.



Jeffrey Pena-Bencosme

**Wanted for Murder of
a Police Officer**